

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Cool and wet conditions during the week were followed by a warmer and drier weekend. Temperatures were still colder than normal at almost all stations, averaging 6 degrees below normal. Low temperatures ranged from 17 degrees in Redmond to 38 degrees in Portland. High temperatures ranged from 54 degrees in Moro to 74 degrees in Medford. All 43 stations reported measurable precipitation. The Tillamook station reported the most with 2.93 inches, closely followed by the Astoria station with 2.91 inches.

Field Crops: Farmers were able to do some field work this week, but still hoping for the weather to warm up and dry the fields. Douglas County reported that field work will not get done until there is a week of dry weather there. Washington County reported that grass seed growers were two to three weeks behind in growth for this time of year, but clover and alfalfa were growing well. More Willamette Valley farmers may decide to plant oats and barley due to the lateness of planting dates. Potato planting had started in Malheur County. Umatilla County reported that cool temperatures continued to favor the development of stripe rust in wheat fields.

Vegetables: Greenhouses were busy getting vegetable starts out to growers, however field work was limited due to the cool temperatures and wet weather. Cool, wet, weather may decrease green pea acreage.

Fruits and Nuts: Orchards were in full bloom, although cold weather inhibited pollination, including plums in Douglas County. Frost protection was needed in several counties, and freeze damage was found in Josephine and Lane counties. Wine grape bud break was a week or two behind long term averages in Douglas County. Filberts were leafed out in Washington County.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses continued getting out decorative starts to customers. Nurseries continued to bring out spring plants, bare root trees, and shrubs. Bare root shrubs were shipped. Some nurseries were preparing to plant cuttings and cover with low hoop covers.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: It was another week of cool and wet conditions. Pasture growth continued to be slow. Many ranchers needed to supplement feed, using up more of their hay stocks. Livestock were being moved and looked in good shape. Warmer weather was needed.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 05/01/11

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	1	65	34
Subsoil	0	1	72	27

Crop Progress - Week Ending 05/01/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	75	70	86	88
Barley emerged	54	51	69	64
Spring wheat planted	80	74	94	90
Spring wheat emerged	37	26	76	64
Days suitable for fieldwork	3.4	4.2	3.9	5.3

Crop Condition - Week Ending 05/01/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	2	17	61	20
Range and pasture	1	12	32	47	8

Western Oregon

CLACKAMAS: Still wet and cold. This was a good week for slugs, snails, ducks, frogs, salamanders, fir trees, ground water recharge and snow pack accumulation so not a complete loss. Too wet all week for tillage and planting. It was nearing the end of timely planting for spring wheat. Options were narrowing down to oats or barley for dry land grain. Pasture growth was way behind, and with high slaughter cow prices, the local herd size was shrinking. Saturday was good. Sunday was beautiful.

COLUMBIA: Better temperatures and field working conditions this last week, but still could use significant improvement quickly. Forages slowed by low temperatures as were tree and small fruit flowering.

COOS/CURRY: Low temperatures were 2 to 3 degrees below the 5-year average in both Bandon (Coos Co.) and in Brookings (southern Curry). High temperatures through the week were about 3 to 4 degrees below the 5-year average in both southern Curry, and Coos. Heaviest precipitation was early in the week for both counties, with a relatively nice end-week. Producers continued to move more cattle onto the bottoms. Water level remained up in the Coquille bottom, and even hillside pastures remained relatively wet. There were 2 days suitable for field work during the period, with a few venturing out to make (wrapped) haylage Friday and Saturday. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 36.98 degrees, 2.13 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 59.65 degrees, 3.83 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.82 inches, which is 0.31 inches below the 5-year average for the week. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 49.03 inches, 2.21 inches below the 5-year average. Average precipitation through the month of April is 52.85 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 39.85 degrees, 1.02 degrees below the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 61.61 degrees, 2.88 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 1.01 inches, compared to a 5-year average of 132 inches. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 81.34 inches, 7.01 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through April is 64.54 inches.

DOUGLAS: Much colder than normal. Another wet week kept growers out of the field. Sunshine and warmth was needed to dry fields. Until there is a week or so of dry weather, not much field work will get done. Pollination season was in full swing for apples and prunes. Pear, peach, nectarine, cherry, and plum pollination were complete. Pollination for plums was poor and the crop is very light. Peach and nectarine pollination was poor, giving a light set. Pear pollination was average, and cherry pollination was still too early to tell. Wine grape bud break was a week or two behind long term averages, depending on the site.

JACKSON: The week started out cool but stayed relatively dry. The end of the week warmed up in the afternoons and farmers were busy with field work, which finally included the planting of spring grain crops. Grains that were planted were looking okay. There was some need for frost protection with a few cool nights. Pears and apples still had some bloom, but most were getting sprayed before closure. Wind machines were running in the orchards at some locations around the Valley. It was still

much too wet to get vegetables in for garden planting. Greenhouses were still getting out lots of spring starts, both vegetable and decorative plants. There were still lots of good starts at outlets. Nurseries were still getting out some bare root, trees, and shrubs. All livestock were looking quite good, and were out on valley pastures. Some supplemental feeding continued as some pastures still needed a better start. Lots of spring lambs, calves, and kids, even a few new foals. Pastures were looking a little better, but still needed some warmer weather.

JOSEPHINE: Really nice week for working, two days with rain and wind (blustery not sustained). Total precipitation was 1 1/2 inches. Overnight temperatures ranged from 24 degrees to 45 degrees and daytime temperatures ranged from 45 degrees to 80 degrees. Fruit trees had killing frosts. Pears, cherries, plums, and some nut trees will be affected if they were not protected. Nurseries were very busy. Animals all looked good and still good grass.

LANE: Off and on rain with two inches of hail in Eugene and slushy snow in Dexter on 4/29. Night temperatures above 32 degrees but seeing some freeze damage in the outer County. Pollination of some fruit trees should be moderate due to a few good sunny days. Blueberries were near bloom. Strawberries were blooming. Farmers market was going. Soil was wet again.

LINN/BENTON: The weather in the Willamette Valley remained cooler than normal for this time of year. Farmers had mostly completed their fertilizing and spring planting. The ground remains wet for those who were planting late crops. Orchards were in full bloom, the cool weather was making it hard for tree pollination. Saturday markets were now in full swing offering greens and some root vegetables.

MARION: Cool wet weather had delayed spring planting. Wet areas were starting to drain out and dry. Warm and sunny weather over the weekend was welcomed by all.

MULTNOMAH: Too wet to plow.

WASHINGTON: Many farmers tilled fields to seed spring crops. Some farmers had decided to plant spring oats due to lateness of planting dates. Strawberries were blooming. Grass seed growers were two to three weeks behind in growth for this time of year. Clover and alfalfa were growing well. Herbicide application continued when possible. They were spraying for filbert blight. Filberts were leafed out. Cherries and some varieties of apples were blooming. Some blueberries were blooming. Farmers were anxious to plant sweet corn. Fields were being prepared when weather permitted. Nurseries were preparing to plant cuttings and cover with low hoop covers. Bareroot shrubs were shipped. Cattle were out on wet pastures. Grass was growing slowly in soggy land. High temperature 60.4 degrees, low temperature 31.8 degrees, 0.75 inches of rain fall.

YAMHILL: Sweet cherries on the Valley floor were in full bloom. The cool, rainy weather had not been favorable for honey bee flights for pollination.

Eastern Oregon

GILLIAM: A Thursday evening blizzard and cold winds on Friday eventually gave way to milder conditions over the weekend.

GRANT: Same as last week, cold temperatures had not been conducive to grass growth. Hay stocks were getting low.

HOOD RIVER: Variable conditions prevailed through the week. Minimum temperatures dipped into critical ranges for developing fruit flower buds on April 29 and May 1 with widespread frost protection. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at full bloom (WSU stage 7); Red Delicious apple at first pink to first bloom (WSU stages 5&7); Bing cherry between at full bloom (WSU stage 8); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stage 3.

KLAMATH: More unfavorable spring weather. Cool temperatures, rain, and snow throughout the week. Spring preparation work continued with some planting and limited irrigation.

MALHEUR: Weather was still 10 to 15 degrees below normal with rain showers during the first part of the week. High

temperatures were 49 degrees to 67 degrees and low temperatures were 31 degrees to 44 degrees. Potato planting had started.

UMATILLA: Cool temperatures continued to favor the development of stripe rust in wheat fields.

UNION/BAKER: Weather was incredibly variable this week: cold, wet and windy conditions with a few snow flurries intermixed with open, clear weather. Field conditions dried out enough to start making progress with spring seeding and other activities. A lot of tractors were out in the fields.

WALLOWA: Still cold and snowy but forecast was looking better. Some spring planting occurred in the lower Valley.

WASCO: Blooms were on the downhill side. Late blooming cherry varieties such as Regina, Attika and Skeena were now in full bloom throughout much of the County. Now one will be able to see how much damage those winter freezes hurt the fruit set. Early wheat seedings were almost in the boot stage and looking great. The spring seeding was finally done and some were even up. It looks like there will be some nice days where pollination can take place.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 1, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	33	60	47	-4	-	-12	2.91	2.04	6	75.59	16.97	129	174
Bandon ⁸	37	60	49	-2	1	-13	0.82	0.03	6	50.83	-2.54	95	163
Crescent City	37	58	49	-3	3	-22	0.44	-0.36	4	58.41	-1.29	98	131
Florence	35	62	47	-4	-	-14	1.90	0.90	6	71.76	3.52	105	169
North Bend	36	61	49	-3	2	-12	0.72	-0.12	4	43.92	-13.59	76	119
Tillamook	32	61	48	-1	2	-5	2.93	1.79	6	73.32	-4.46	94	159
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	34	66	49	-4	1	-20	1.10	0.54	5	45.65	10.01	128	158
Corvallis	37	63	48	-4	1	-20	1.42	0.93	6	40.19	1.99	105	160
Detroit Lake ⁸	30	68	43	-4	-	-7	2.75	1.91	6	91.74	31.78	153	165
Eugene	33	64	48	-5	1	-26	1.03	0.47	5	35.11	-9.16	79	127
Hillsboro	32	65	47	-5	1	-20	1.17	0.76	3	35.78	2.77	108	146
McMinnville	33	64	48	-5	1	-24	1.34	0.85	4	40.57	1.44	104	146
Portland	38	66	50	-4	6	-24	1.39	0.90	5	42.56	11.45	137	146
Salem	35	66	49	-2	4	-17	1.65	1.16	5	42.55	7.86	123	142
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	34	62	49	-7	5	-37	0.25	-0.08	4	36.62	7.95	128	121
Medford	35	74	51	-3	14	-22	0.10	-0.12	2	18.43	1.89	111	95
Roseburg	35	70	50	-4	8	-27	0.83	0.41	5	32.23	2.82	110	132
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	26	56	42	-6	-	-7	0.23	-0.05	4	14.11	3.41	132	108
Echo ⁸	32	67	49	-6	-	-40	0.04	-0.11	1	10.16	2.89	140	98
Heppner	31	60	46	-6	-	-21	0.68	0.36	4	12.95	2.38	123	105
Hermiston	27	67	50	-5	2	-38	0.05	-0.10	1	10.45	3.18	144	93
Madras ⁸	24	65	43	-8	-	-21	0.14	0.00	1	8.85	0.94	112	89
Moro	29	54	43	-7	-	-14	0.35	0.21	3	12.41	3.41	138	83
Parkdale ⁸	30	63	43	-9	-	-27	1.60	1.32	4	43.61	15.23	154	141
Pendleton	30	66	47	-6	-	-33	0.05	-0.17	2	13.23	3.68	139	102
Prairie City ⁸	24	65	43	-8	-	-21	0.14	0.00	1	8.85	0.94	112	89
The Dalles	34	70	50	+0	8	-13	0.64	0.50	3	12.28	1.82	117	99
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	27	61	40	-5	-	-7	0.10	-0.11	1	15.69	2.37	118	89
Bend	21	64	40	-6	-	-9	0.18	0.04	2	5.98	-3.04	66	46
Burns	20	62	40	-7	-	-10	0.17	0.01	2	11.42	4.30	160	96
Christmas Valley ⁸	18	63	37	-12	-	-18	0.37	0.18	5	8.58	-0.75	92	106
Klamath Falls	19	64	40	-8	-	-14	0.08	-0.07	2	9.45	-1.57	86	72
Klamath Falls ⁸	20	64	39	-9	-	-14	0.15	0.00	3	11.83	0.81	107	99
Lakeview	18	59	37	-10	-	-10	0.22	-0.06	3	13.93	1.75	114	103
Lorella ⁸	18	63	39	-9	-	-14	0.29	0.14	3	12.02	1.00	109	94
Redmond	17	68	40	-7	-	-13	0.10	-0.04	1	8.42	2.27	137	71
Worden ⁸	22	64	40	-8	-	-14	0.10	-0.05	1	11.29	0.27	102	85
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	18	60	41	-8	-	-14	0.21	0.00	3	8.44	1.70	125	91
Joseph	25	54	38	-7	-	+0	0.12	-0.30	3	10.49	-8.71	55	97
La Grande	27	63	43	-7	-	-20	0.42	0.07	4	10.57	-2.39	82	99
Union	25	57	42	-7	-	-14	0.43	0.10	5	14.56	5.48	160	117
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	26	67	47	-8	-	-44	0.14	0.00	2	9.10	1.49	120	75
Rome	22	62	41	-10	-	-21	0.34	0.13	3	10.65	5.15	194	74

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.